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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/743,863 | 01/17/2001 | Miki Nagano | 108103 | 9073 |

25944 7590 03/18/2004

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| EXAMINER |
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KIBLER, VIRGINIA M

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2623

DATE MAILED: 03/18/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/743,863

Applicant(s)

NAGANO, MIKI

Examiner

Virginia M Kibler

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 January 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3,5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1-11 are objected to because of the following informalities: claim 1 is objected for the limitation recited inside parenthesis. All limitations shall be explicitly recited.

Claims 2-11 depend on claim 1, and are thereby objected to.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fukunaga et al (6,088,037).

Regarding claim 1, Fukunaga et al. ("Fukunaga") discloses n image processing sections which receive n consecutive pixel data items that are respectively input with the same timing and which respectively process the respective input pixel data items with the same timing (Col. 6, lines 41-44; Figure 4; Col. 3, lines 48-56); and a control section that controls the n image processing sections (Col. 6, lines 56-61) wherein each of the image processing sections are capable of being set to one of a first operation mode allowing data communication with the

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control section, and a second operation mode allowing only reception from the control section, one of the image processing sections is set to the first operation mode, and $n-1$ of the image processing sections are set to the second operation mode (Col. 14, lines 18-45); wherein commands are commonly given to the n image processing sections from the control section (Col. 15, lines 14-21) and wherein when a command is given from the control section to one of the image processing sections that is set to the first operation mode, the n image processing sections individually execute the same processing with the same timing (Col. 14, lines 38-45).

Regarding claim 2, Fukunaga discloses the n image processing sections being allocated in the same address space in address spaces that can be controlled by the control section (Col. 6, lines 64-67, Col. 7, lines 1-9).

Regarding claims 3 and 6, Fukunaga discloses each of the image processing sections including a mode-setting terminal that sets one of the first operation mode and the second operation mode, and one of the operation modes being set according to a mode-setting signal input to the mode-setting terminal (Col. 3, lines 30-37; Col. 14, lines 18-45).

Regarding claims 4, 7, and 8, Fukunaga discloses a memory that stores image-processing data commonly used by the respective image processing sections (Col. 6, lines 41-47) wherein the image processing section set to the first operation mode can write the image-processing data which is fed from the control to the memory and in addition can read out the image-processing data written in the memory (Col. 6, lines 45-47; Col. 13, lines 64-67) wherein the image processing section set to the second operation mode can input the image-processing data read out by the image processing section set to the first operation mode from the memory (Col. 15, lines 14-21).

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Regarding claims 5, 9, 10, and 11, Fukunaga discloses an image-displaying section that displays images represented by video signals output from the image-processing apparatus (Col. 5, lines 42-50 and 57-65).

Contact Information

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Virginia M Kibler whose telephone number is (703) 306-4072. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 8:00 - 5:30 and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au can be reached on (703) 308-6604. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VK

VK
3/16/04

MEHRDAD DASTOURI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Mehrdad Dastouri